

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A sabot for a projectile comprising at least two segments intended to surround and drive a sub-calibre penetrator, such sabot comprising a calibrated thrust plate, wherein said sabot incorporates a body made of a light material longitudinally extending and having indentations therein, said body having at least one longitudinal insert made of a material having ~~high mechanical properties~~ a longitudinal modulus of elasticity that is greater than or equal to 100 Giga Pascals and an elastic limit greater than or equal to 900 Mega Pascals, said insert having indentations cooperating with an external profile of said penetrator to allow it to be driven, said indentations longitudinally aligned with and extending those of the body of said sabot ~~body~~ and which thus also cooperate with the external profile of said penetrator.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A sabot according to Claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein said material of said insert is selected from among the following materials: titanium or titanium alloy, steel, composite material.

4. (Currently Amended) A sabot according to Claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein said insert is thinner at the vicinity of said thrust plate than on either side of it.

5. (Currently Amended) A sabot according to Claim 4, wherein said insert extends longitudinally on either side of said thrust plate, said body comprising at least two bearing surfaces level with said thrust plate for said insert, said surfaces arranged on either side of said thrust plate.

6. (Currently Amended) A sabot according to Claim 5, wherein said body of said each segment incorporates a longitudinal recess ~~made~~ in its plane of symmetry ~~and intended to receive~~ for receiving said insert.

7. (Original) A sabot according to Claim 6, wherein said recess passes radially through the body of said segment on either side of said thrust plate.

8. (Original) A sabot according to Claim 5, wherein said insert is made integral with said segment body by at least two screws arranged near to the front and rear ends of said insert.

9. (Withdrawn) A sabot according to Claim 1, wherein said body of said each segment incorporates at least two longitudinal recesses, each recess being made at a joint face intended to come into contact with another segment when said sabot is assembled, said inserts being thus positioned at the inter-segment joint faces of said sabot.

10. (Withdrawn) A sabot according to Claim 9, wherein said each recess incorporates a profile that cooperates with a matching profile carried by said insert.

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11. (Withdrawn) A sabot according to Claim 10, wherein said each joint face is provided with two recesses, one recess being placed to the fore of said thrust plate and the other recess to its rear, said each recess being intended to receive a specific insert.

12. (Withdrawn) A sabot according to Claim 9, wherein said recesses arranged in said body of said each segment extend on either side of said thrust plate, said body comprising at least two bearing surfaces for said insert at said thrust plate, such said surfaces being arranged on either side of said thrust plate.

13. (Withdrawn) A sabot according to Claim 12, wherein said each insert is made integral with one said segment body by at least one screw arranged at said thrust plate part of said segment in question.